WELFARE REFORM BILL/Drug Addicts and Alcoholics

SUBJECT:

Family Self-Sufficiency Act of 1995 . . . H.R. 4. Bingaman modified amendment No. 2484 to the Dole modified perfecting amendment No. 2280 to the committee substitute amendment.

ACTION: AMENDMENT REJECTED, 41-58

SYNOPSIS: As reported with a committee substitute amendment, H.R. 4, the Family Self-Sufficiency Act of 1995, will overhaul six of the Nation's ten largest welfare programs.

The Dole modified perfecting amendment would strike the provisions of the committee substitute amendment and insert in lieu thereof substitute provisions, entitled "The Work Opportunity Act of 1995."

The Bingaman modified amendment would appropriate an additional \$100 million for each of fiscal years 1997-2000 for activities relating to the treatment of the abuse of alcohol and other drugs.

Those favoring the amendment contended:

A majority of Members appear to be intent on passing, on this bill and on other bills, a total of \$1.345 billion in cuts in fiscal year 1996 funding for drug and alcohol abuse programs. We question the wisdom of making such drastic cuts. These programs can be very effective in reducing criminal activity. The importance of reducing drug-related criminal activity cannot be overstated--fully 60 percent of Federal prisoners are incarcerated for drug law violations. Our House colleagues proposed giving the States \$100 million in funding for each of fiscal years 1997-2000 to offset part of the loss in Federal program funding. The leadership amendment which should soon be offered contains a compromise proposal--it would add \$50 million for each of fiscal years 1997-1998. We think that proposal is inadequate, and have therefore offered the Bingaman amendment. We urge our colleagues to agree with the House by agreeing to this amendment.

Those opposing the amendment contended:

(See other side)

YEAS (41)			NAYS (58)			NOT VOTING (1)	
Republicans (2 or 4%)	Democrats (39 or 85%)		Republicans (51 or 96%)		Democrats (7 or 15%)	Republicans (1)	Democrats (0)
Cohen Jeffords	Akaka Biden Bingaman Boxer Bradley Bryan Bumpers Conrad Dodd Dorgan Exon Feinstein Ford Glenn Graham Harkin Heflin Hollings Inouye	Johnston Kennedy Kerrey Kerrey Lautenberg Leahy Levin Lieberman Mikulski Moseley-Braun Murray Nunn Pell Pryor Reid Robb Rockefeller Sarbanes Simon Wellstone	Abraham Ashcroft Bennett Bond Brown Burns Campbell Chafee Coats Cochran Coverdell Craig D'Amato DeWine Domenici Faircloth Frist Gorton Gramm Grams Grassley Gregg Hatfield Helms	Hutchison Inhofe Kassebaum Kempthorne Kyl Lott Lugar Mack McCain McConnell Murkowski Nickles Packwood Pressler Roth Santorum Shelby Simpson Smith Snowe Specter Stevens Thomas Thompson Thurmond Warner	Baucus Breaux Byrd Daschle Feingold Kohl Moynihan	Hatch- ²	TON OF ABSENCE Buisiness ily Absent nced Yea nced Nay Yea

VOTE NO. 429 SEPTEMBER 15, 1995

The leadership amendment on which we will likely soon vote contains a compromise provision on drug and alcohol programs. That compromise provision was negotiated in good faith. Unfortunately, one side is now insisting on a vote on its original position. We urge Senators to stick with the compromise agreement by voting against this amendment.